

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4, 10 and 23 without prejudice and amend Claims 1, 3, 11-14, 16, and 21-22 as follows:

1. (currently amended): A controlled descent device comprising:

a housing;

a rotatable drum supported within said housing;

a line constructed of flat webbing wound around said drum adapted for extraction and retraction from said housing;

a brake mechanism for engaging said drum to produce a resisting force during line extraction wherein said brake mechanism includes a pinion gear with a shaft supported on said housing, and a brake hub supported on said shaft by said one-way bearing; and

a manufactured mechanism linking said brake mechanism to said drum for producing a rotational motion in one direction and fixed motion in the opposite direction.

2. (original): The controlled descent device of claim 1 wherein said manufactured mechanism is a one-way bearing.

3. (currently amended): The controlled descent device of claim 2 wherein said one-way bearing is selected from the group consisting of [ramp type] roller, sprag clutches and sprag clutch with roller combinations.

4. (canceled)

5. (previously canceled)

6. (previously presented): The controlled descent device of claim 1 wherein said flat webbing is composed of a material having minimum 20% elongation at break.

7. (previously presented): The controlled descent device of claim 1 wherein said drum has side walls spaced slightly wider than the webbing width, whereby said line is adapted to be wound on said drum in consecutive layers.

8. (original): The controlled descent device of claim 7 further including a nozzle supported by said housing through which said line is extracted, said nozzle including an opening slightly larger than the webbing width, whereby said line is directed onto said drum in consecutive layers.

9. (original): The controlled descent device of claim 8 further including a cylindrically shaped roller supported by said housing for directing said line onto and off of said drum.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended): The controlled descent device of claim [10] 14 wherein each of said joined ends has a loop wherein said linkage comprises a cylinder supported within each loop, and a bolt passing through holes formed in each loop and through each cylinder.

12. (currently amended): The controlled descent device of claim [10] 14 wherein each of said joined ends has a loop, wherein said linkage comprises a screw lock link passing through the loops.

13. (currently amended): The controlled descent device of claim [10] 14 wherein each of said joined ends has a loop, wherein said linkage comprises a plate supported within each said loop, and at least one screw passing through the loops and plates.

14. (currently amended): In a controlled descent device including a housing, a rotatable drum supported within said housing, a line wound around said drum adapted for extraction and retraction from said housing, a brake mechanism for engaging said drum to produce a resisting force during line extraction; wherein the improvement comprises a manufactured mechanism linking said brake mechanism to said drum for producing a rotational motion in one direction and fixed motion in the opposite direction and wherein [said manufactured mechanism is a one-way bearing] said line further comprising a flat webbing having an internal permanent portion and a distal replaceable portion, said permanent portion and said replaceable portion having ends joined by a linkage, whereby said replaceable portion is adapted to be replaced when worn.

15. (previously canceled)

16. (currently amended): The controlled descent device of claim 14 wherein said one-way bearing is selected from the group consisting of roller [ramp type], sprag clutches and sprag clutch with roller combinations.

17. (previously presented): A controlled descent device comprising:

a housing;

a rotatable drum supported within said housing;

a line constructed of flat webbing wound around said drum adapted for extraction and retraction from said housing; and

wherein said line further comprises an internal permanent portion and a distal replaceable portion, said permanent portion and said replaceable portion having ends joined by a linkage, whereby said replaceable portion is adapted to be replaced when worn.

18. (previously presented): The controlled descent device of claim 17 wherein each of said joined ends has a loop wherein said linkage comprises a cylinder supported within each loop, and a bolt passing through holes formed in each loop and through each cylinder.

19. (previously presented): The controlled descent device of claim 17 wherein each of said joined ends has a loop, wherein said linkage comprises a screw lock link passing through the loops.

20. (previously presented): The controlled descent device of claim 17 wherein each of said joined ends has a loop, wherein said linkage comprises a plate supported within each said loop, and at least one screw passing through the loops and plates.

21. (currently amended): A controlled descent device comprising:

a housing;

a rotatable drum supported within said housing;

a line wound around said drum adapted for extraction and retraction from said housing;

a brake mechanism for engaging said drum to produce a resisting force during line extraction wherein said brake mechanism includes a pinion gear with a shaft supported on said housing, and a brake hub supported on said shaft by said one-way bearing; and

a manufactured mechanism linking said brake mechanism to said drum for producing a rotational motion in one direction and fixed motion in the opposite direction, and wherein said manufactured mechanism is a one-way bearing.

22. (currently amended): The controlled descent device of claim 21 wherein said one-way bearing is selected from the group consisting of back-stopping, clutch, indexing [ramp type] roller, sprag clutches and sprag clutch with roller combinations.

23. (canceled)

24. (previously presented): A controlled descent device comprising:

a housing;

a rotatable drum supported within said housing;

a line wound around said drum adapted for extraction and retraction from said housing;

wherein said line further comprises an internal permanent portion and a distal replaceable portion, said permanent portion and said replaceable portion having ends joined by a linkage, whereby said replaceable portion is adapted to be replaced when worn;

wherein each of said joined ends has a loop; and

wherein said linkage comprises one of the following:

a cylinder supported within each loop and a bolt passing through holes formed in each loop and through each cylinder;

a screw lock link passing through the loops; and

a plate supported within each said loop, and at least one screw passing through the loops and plates.